John Wells joins MCC Staff

He’s back! After eight years, John Wells is returning to Martin Community College (MCC) to help students find their education and career path at the College. Wells brings more than 20 years of guidance counseling, enrollment management, career services and academic advising experience with him. His first day back was Monday, August 3.

Prior to returning, Wells spent the last eight years at College of the Albemarle (COA), in Elizabeth City, NC, where he served as the Director of Counseling, Advising and Student Success. In this position he directed and provided advising, orientation, testing, and counseling for a campus of 1,600 students, 400 of which, he personally advised on an annual basis.

New COA students looked to Wells for guidance, as he was the orientation presenter/instructor for over 600 new students yearly and created online orientation course in myCourses. He also developed and taught COA’s online/hybrid ACA 122/College Transfer Success course.

More seasoned COA students relied on Wells to provide career services that included counseling, resume writing, interviewing, and networking. He also served as Interim Dean of Students (2011) and Interim Dean, Edenton-Chowan Campus (2015).

Prior to the year he first worked at MCC, Wells worked as a counselor for Chowan County Schools, Gates County Schools, Perquimans County High Schools, and Bertie County Schools. He also served as the assistant dean of Admissions and Testing at COA during the early 1990’s, and while in that capacity, increased enrollment in technical programs by 20 percent through targeted recruitment.

Wells Continued on page 2
Preliminary head count numbers for Martin Community College’s fall semester indicate a 20% increase over last fall! What a great way to start the year! Many of our new students are from NERSBA (North East Regional School for Biotechnology and Agriscience) in Jamesville as well as Career and College promise students from Martin County High Schools and the Bertie Early College High School. Welcome to all of our new students and welcome back to returning students!

Initial MCC Head Count is up by 20% this Fall

Wells, continued from page 1

Wells earned his BS degree in Psychology from Campbell University in 1981 and a Masters Degree in Counselor Education at East Carolina University in 1984.

About his time at MCC, Wells states, “I worked previously at Martin CC in 2006 and 2007 as the Counselor. My duties then besides counseling were recruiting, testing, early alert, advising, and orientation. One of my fondest memories of my tenure at Martin was when Dr. Britt gathered all the faculty and staff together to brainstorm how we could develop an orientation event for new students. I was so impressed with the campus community coming together and working collaboratively to help students be successful. For me that is what sets Martin CC apart and one of the reasons I came back.”

Wells adds, “I really am looking forward to working once again at Martin CC. The college is full of potential and opportunity. I like seeing all the positive changes and additions happening on campus. It is exciting to be a part of a small campus that makes a big difference in students’ lives. I look forward to serving students and helping them succeed in life and in their careers. My door is always open to students!”

Dr. Jennifer Burruss, MCC’s Dean of Academic and Student Services, stated, “We are so pleased to have John Wells joining our staff. His vast experience and total dedication to helping students succeed will make him a great fit in our small, student oriented environment. And, as MCC continues to enhance its relationship with the local school systems and serve more and more high school students, John’s expertise will be critical in helping these young students lose their angst over attending college. He will be a great addition to our team.”
What would be a good name for the skeleton in the library?

Join in the fun of naming the new skeleton in the MCC Library!

Enter as many names as you like between Sept. 1 and Oct. 23.

Entries must be submitted in the MCC Library (Building # 2).

The winner will be announced during the MCC Halloween celebration and receive a $25 gift certificate to the MCC Café.

The library is great place to bone up on any subject!
According to Larry Johnson, MCC’s Director of Fire and Rescue training, the Swift Water Rescue Awareness Class held on August 15 was a big success. With fifteen students in attendance, on the Williamston campus, it was a great kick off for Johnson’s program at MCC. Pictured above, holding onto the pole, is Mitch Cooper, the Emergency Management Director in Bertie County practicing a shallow water crossing exercise with a variety of Fire and Rescue personnel from the region. This particular training demonstrates how to cross water barriers where the current is three to five miles per hour, too swift to stand in without support. Johnson has been meeting with fire departments throughout the area to develop classes and training regimens. Coming up on December 7 & 8 in 2015 is a Fire Chief 101 Class at MCC from 6:00 -10:00 PM. This class will satisfy the 9s inspection criteria as specified by the North Carolina Administrative Code. The primary objective of the course is to inform current and future chief officers of the various aspects and complexities surrounding the operations and organization of North Carolina fire departments. Topics will include Chief Responsibilities, Line of Duty Deaths, Relief Funds, Pension Funds, Fire/Rescue Grants, OSHA/NFPA/Safety, and Rating and Response Systems. For more information, contact Johnson at ljjohnson@martincc.edu or 252-789-0205.

Maureen Green is the new Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at Martin Community College (MCC). Prior to accepting this position, Green had worked as the College’s Academic Skills Coordinator since 2012. Green started her new duties on August 12.

The Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE) is a critical position in all community colleges. The data collected in this office is crucial in keeping colleges accountable to the public and essential in planning for the future.

The IRE Director conducts research that supports decision making and planning; partners with other offices and programs in projects that assess institutional effectiveness; maintains and reports on statistics including admissions, enrollment, and graduation; responds to

Green Continued on page 5
BLET at MCC is well underway

Pictured left is Assata K. Buffaloe, teaching the “Arrest, Search and Seizure” block to MCC’s most recent BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) class. According to Wayland Mitchell, MCC’s BLET Coordinator, the class got off to a great start and has twelve very enthusiastic students plying their way through the 620 hour course. This course is designed to prepare entry-level individuals with the skills needed to become certified law enforcement officers in NC.

Green Continued from page 4

Green’s education in math and statistics made her a great fit for this position. She earned her BS in Math Education from ECU as well as a Masters degree in Mathematics with a Statistics Concentration in 2011.

Green grew up in Greenville, but has lived in Bethel for the past 18 years. She taught high school for almost 20 years at SouthWest Edgecombe in Pittops and North Pitt HS in Bethel. Green began working at MCC in 2012 as the Academic Skills Coordinator. Green states, “I am looking forward to using data to help drive decisions here at Martin Community College. It’s an awesome place to be and I am happy to be a part of such a wonderful school.”

MCC President, Dr. Ann Britt, states, “Maureen is great addition to our administrative team at MCC. Although she will be missed in the classroom, her background in statistics will be very helpful as MCC prepares for its upcoming SACS COC accreditation process. It is especially good that Maureen is already familiar with our campus, processes and employees. This will certainly enhance her learning curve for this position.”

In her spare time, Green likes to watch her three children play sports and enjoy her husband’s acoustic duo band, Rowlette-Green, perform 70s and 80s music. She is also a self-described trivia addict and loves to read and dance (not necessarily at the same time.)
Convocation 2015!

MCC Faculty and staff came together on August 14 to start off the fall semester with introductions of new personnel, campus updates and essential training.

Billy Barber, Assistant to the President and MCC’s Business and Industry Liaison, discusses the Cleary Act and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

Dr. Ann Britt, MCC President, welcomes everyone back to campus.

Dr. Jennifer Burruss, Dean of Academics and Student Services, explains new procedures for faculty.

Jeri Griffin (Basic Skills Director) and Norman Cherry (Bertie Campus Director) listen to updates.

Steve Taylor, Dean of Administrative Services
MCC Continuing Education congratulates 83 summer healthcare program completers

Kina Collier (above), a resident of Williamston and registered nurse, was the guest speaker at MCC’s 2015 Summer Healthcare Programs Recognition Celebration on July 29. The event celebrated the successful completion by eighty-three students of one of the following MCC Continuing Education classes; Dialysis Technician, Medical Billing and Coding, Nurse Aide I, Nurse Aide II, Nurse Aide I Refresher, Pharmacy Technician, or Phlebotomy. Students from both the Bertie and Williamston campuses took part in the event. The MCC Auditorium was filled to capacity with family and friends (below) of the completers.

MCC Cosmetology Services are available to you!

Did you know that the MCC Cosmetology Lab offers services that you'll find in most any salon today?

MCC students and employees, as well as the general public, have access to the latest trends in haircuts, styles, permanent waves, foiling-hi-lites, color, relaxers, braiding, manicures, pedicures, and facials in the school’s Cosmetology Department. And best of all, they are available at very reduced prices!

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hair Cut</td>
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<td>Manicure</td>
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<td>Pedicure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hair Color</td>
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Patrons frequently tip students for their work - which is certainly appreciated!

Utilizing the MCC Cosmetology services in this way creates a win-win scenario for everyone - the customer saves money and the students gain required experience!

The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, from 9:15 am to 1:00 pm. Walk-ins are always welcome but appointments can be made to accommodate busy schedules. To make an appointment, please call 252-789-0250.
BELLA Magazine NC presents...
The Art of Dressing
Fashion Show and Installation Benefiting The T.W. Nicholson MD Medical Education Endowments at Pitt
Champs and Nibbles, Thursday September 24th, 7pm at The Greenville Museum of Art, 802 South Evans Street Greenville
Tickets $35 Available Through Arlington Village Greenville and Downtown Washington Locations...

For more information visit Bella Magazine NC on Facebook or call BELLA at 252-495-1637

For tickets in Martin County, contact Judy Jennette at 252-789-0310 or jjennette@martincc.edu
MCC Face Lift Update

The Physician’s Assistants’ lab in Building three is now open for business. New flooring, ceiling, cabinets and furniture have certainly added to the program’s learning environment!

New College Students!

Several area High Schools have students attending classes on the MCC campus. Among them are NERSBA (North East Regional School for Biotechnology and Agriscience) in Jamesville, Bertie Early College HS in Windsor, Riverside HS in Williamston, South Creek HS in Robersonville, and Bear Grass Charter School. Welcome to our campus!

Scholarship Opportunities

Golden Leaf Foundation Scholarship applications are now available in the MCC ‘s Financial Aid office (Building 1, Room 20).

Eligible curriculum and continuing education students may apply. Up to $750 per semester, including summer term, is available for curriculum students and up to $250 per semester is available for students enrolling in occupational programs. Awards may be applied toward tuition, books, supplies in the MCC bookstore, transportation, child care expenses related to attending classes, and mid-skills testing upon course completion.

Curriculum applicants MUST have an up-to-date, completed FAFSA form on file to be eligible.

Applications must be submitted to the MCC Financial Aid Office by Wednesday, September 30, 2015. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. For more information, contact Terri Leggett at 252-789-0204 or via email at tleggett@martincc.edu

Avoid Flash Drive Failure!

1) Students should ALWAYS use the "Safely Remove Your Flash Drive" icon before removing it.
2) Students can e-mail assignments to themselves in order to have a backup online.
3) Students can create a free Microsoft account on OneDrive to save backups to the "cloud." (free storage is limited)
Recognizing Domestic Abuse

Part of an ongoing series of articles about domestic violence and how to recognize it, report it, avoid it, or escape it

Domestic violence isn’t always visible. There may be no outward signs of abuse, no visits to the ER—but violence can still be occurring. It’s important for victims of domestic violence to understand that just because someone doesn’t leave a bruise; it doesn’t mean abuse didn’t occur.

According to WEAVE, a crisis intervention service for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in California,[1] there are five different types of domestic violence. Their common denominator: all types of abuse are used to assert control and power over their victim.

Types of Domestic Abuse

Physical abuse. This is the use of physical force against another person to inflict injury, or to put the person at risk of becoming injured. This may include your partner pushing, hitting, choking you, or threatening you with a weapon.

Sexual abuse [2]. This abuse often occurs in tandem with physical abuse. It involves forcing or coercing a victim to do something sexually, which can range from unwanted kissing or touching to rape. This can also involve threatening someone to perform a sexual act, including oral sex; restricting a victim’s access to birth control and condoms; or repeatedly using sexual insults to demean a victim.

Emotional abuse [3]. This abuse is almost like brain washing in that it is done to wear away at a victim’s self-confidence. It can be verbal—such as your partner repeatedly criticizing, intimidating or belittling you. It can also be nonverbal—when your partner asserts control and tries to demean you by making decisions on your behalf. This can include anything from what you should wear to who your friends should be.

Financial abuse. This type of abuse involves stealing or withholding money from the victim, or using the victim’s name and personal information to accrue debt. The victim may feel financially dependent on their partner, or as though they are being forced to support their partner financially.

Spiritual abuse. Also referred to as religious abuse[4], this involves a partner not allowing you to practice your moral or religious beliefs. It can include humiliation or harassment as a means of control, forcing a victim up their culture or values that are important to them. Spiritual abuse can be used by religious leaders to instill fear or guilt into a victim, coercing them to behave a certain way[5].

If you recognize any of these types of abuse, you should seek help from a domestic violence counselor, hotline or shelter immediately.


Tech Abuse. Intimate partner stalking is not a new phenomenon. However, the ongoing advancement of technology is providing stalkers with a sophisticated selection of tools. Stalkers are using a variety of telephone, surveillance, and computer technologies to monitor and harass current and former intimate partners. Some abusers install global positioning systems to discover their victim’s real-time location with extraordinary accuracy, while others use telephones to leave hundreds of messages in a single day. Still others use online databases, electronic records, and web search engines to locate, track, and harass former partners. While stalkers’ methods and choice of technologies vary, survivors report that they are experiencing stalking and abuse that is perpetrated with a high-tech twist.
Leading facts and statistics related to dating and domestic violence.

April 07, 2015, By domesticshelters.org

A lot of domestic violence focus is on adult relationships, yet the most common age in which intimate partner violence first occurs is 18-24 years old for both women and men. For women, the next most common age is 11-17 years old. Kids are most likely to talk about it with their friends rather than their parents, so if you are a parent make sure to read these articles about Children and Teen violence.

43% of college women report experiencing abusive dating behaviors including physical, sexual, tech, verbal or controlling abuse; the most common abusive behavior experience is controlling behavior (32%), physical (22%) and sexual (22%). [1]

Teens report an even higher occurrence of abusive dating behaviors including physical, sexual, tech, verbal or controlling abuse; the most common abusive behavior experience is controlling behavior (47%), physical/sexual (29%) and tech (24%). [2]

Threats of suicide or self-harm is the leading reason why a college student who is an abused partner stays in the relationship (24%). The next most common reasons are afraid of losing friends (20%) and dependent on abuser financially (12%). [1]

Among those college students that experience an abusive relationship, 70% did not realize at the time they were in an abusive relationship, 60% said no one stepped in to try to help them and 42% kept the abuse private and didn’t tell others about it. [1]

Dating abuse ranks dead last on a list of topics parents most commonly discuss with their teens: school/grades (95%), money (90%), the economy (83%), family finances (78%), dating relationships (72%), alcohol (71%), drugs (71%), sex (64%) and dating abuse (31%). [2]

52% of college students know someone in an abusive relationship yet only 8% see it as a major campus problem and many don’t intervene for the following reasons: think it will make the matter worse (62%), feel it is not their business (60%), think it will hurt their relationship with the victim (60%), they know the abuser (56%), and afraid the abuser might make their life more difficult (56%). [1]

Teens that have witnessed violence within their own family are 50% more likely to be involved in an abusive relationship themselves. [2]

Violent relationships in formative years can have serious ramifications by putting the victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behaviors and further domestic violence. [3]


Eleven MCC Dental Assisting Graduates Pinned on August 6

MCC’s (Martin Community College) thirteenth Dental Assisting Class, the Class of 2015, held their pinning ceremony on Thursday, August 6, in the campus auditorium. The guest speaker was Lauren Drimes, CDA. A celebratory reception for the students, their family, and friends immediately followed the ceremony. Pictured from left to right are Fabiola Hernandez, Mara Evans, Tina Abramson, Aleesa Jones, Kelly Hudak, Renikia Hodges, Kimberlyn Jones, Amber Fallon Wilson, Cady Dail, Janna Griffin and Rachelle Storey. Hernandez and Wilson are from Martin County. According to Shelby Brothers, the Director of Dental Assisting at MCC, seventy percent of these students already have jobs! This course of study is a full-time curriculum program, which allows entry in the fall semester only. Successful students should complete the program in three consecutive semesters. Dental Assisting is a very competitive program. Potential students must apply by March 15, 2016.

Martin Memos

Sept. 1 - MCC / Red Cross Blood Drive from 10 am to 2 pm in Bldg. 1
Sept. 14 - Flu shots for faculty and staff from 11 am to 2 pm in Bldg. 1
Sept. 24 - MCC Benefit Fashion Show—Greenville Museum of Art
Sept. 25 - Deadline for submitting news for the Martin Messenger
Sept. 25-26 - Williamston Stampede in Downtown Williamston
Sept. 30 - Student deadline to apply for Golden Leaf Scholarships

MCC is an equal opportunity employment institution.